

MBDA Business Center Pre Application Conference Q&A (29 Business Centers)

Delaware State University

Q: Can we partner with another organization?

A: Yes, please see FFO page 4

Mr Espinoza

Comment: Elimination of barriers to MBEs

Q: Can elimination of barriers be referred to in the proposal and application?

A: Advocacy is an essential part of the published Federal Funding Opportunity. The agency encourages advocacy on behalf of minority business enterprises.

Mr Carter, Latino Association for Capital Builders

- Q If nonprofits submit collectively, how are they evaluated?

- A Non-profits are evaluated individually

Mr Uwulu from Virgin Island

Q: Can we apply from the Virgin Island?

A: Yes, we encourage eligible applicants to submit applications to apply to operate a MBDA Business center in a specific MSA.

Robin Cornish

Q: What is your specific address?

A: 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington DC 20230

Luciano del Valle in Puerto Rico

Q: Is the 33% cost share requirement negotiable?

A: No, the 33% share requirement is required under this Federal Funding Opportunity (FFO)

Roger Miles from Fresno CA

- thank you, no question

Ms Presley, NY NMSDC

- subscription services are allowed

Fred McKinney, Tuck University

Q: Can we apply if a specific MSA is not included in the FFO?

A: Yes, as long there is a satellite office in the specified location.

Patrick Murphy, for profit construction firm in Dakota

Q: Service area include Native Americans, Can Bismarck be identified as an adjacent location to the identified locations?

A: No, under the FFO the intent is for contiguous areas such as adjacent counties

Q: What does "in-kind" contributions mean? and when is the deadline for the 33% contribution?

A: please see page 8 of the FFO Also, in kind contributions are defined in 2 CFR part 200 (200.306). The 33% non- federal share is required to be proposed as a part of the budget in the application. The successful applicant will be required to achieve the contribution rate at each draw-down of federal funds

Q: Your guidance is requested regarding the budget item for Travel. Should an applicant budget for the Center Director to attend an annual program directors' meeting in Washington, DC or similar meetings?

A: Please see appendix F of the Funding Federal Opportunity. Also, review the per Diem of GSA, site source of your travel budget.

Q: The solicitation states that a center can be in DC or Northern VA. If the proposed operator is located in Northern VA as well, can they cohabitate in the same office?

A: See appendix K of the Federal Funding Opportunity Announcement

Q: A Data Information Sharing Plan was required in the Original Solicitation, but the Modification did not address that plan at all. Is it still required?

A: This question is unclear. No addit all requirements other than what is in the document.

Q: Once submitted in [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) can we update before deadline?

A: Yes

Q: Provide estimate for staffing requirements?

A: 60 days for Project Director

Sharon

Q: Can center help firms without revenue?

A: Yes, please see definitions in Appendix D of the Federal Funding Opportunity

Robin Cornish

Q: Is it recommended that we establish a separate legal entity?

A: Under the award terms, the MBDA business center is a separate entity. Co- mingling relates to office, staff. It relates to services and resources.

Daniel Holmquist

Q: Existing awards end August 2016

A: Yes, some end August 2016 and March 2016

Yolanda

Q: We have 75 member clients, with an existing award that ends late August 2016, if we are awarded a new award are we required to fully operate both awards?

A: Yes, each award is separate and onto itself. If two awards are issued, the operator will need to meet each individual work requirement.

Dan

Q: Is there program income expectation?

A: No. Please see page 9 and example. MBDA cannot dictate what you anticipate program income to be.